

## Propane Watch

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

March 29, 2000

- U.S. inventories of propane continued to post late season declines last week, falling 0.6 million barrels (MMB), to end the week of March 24, 2000 at an estimated 20.8 MMB. Since the end of January 2000, U.S. inventories have remained at the lowest level for this period since 1970. Regional inventories were mixed last week with East Coast and Gulf Coast regions reporting declines of less than 0.1 MMB and 1.0 MMB, respectively, while inventories in the Midwest reported a 0.5 MMB increase during this same period. Regional inventories continued in the normal range in the East Coast but remained below the normal range in the Midwest. The Gulf Coast region continued at the lower limit of the normal range.
- The residential propane price dropped 1.5 cent for the week, from 121.4 to 119.9 cents per gallon, while the wholesale price showed a more marked decline, moving from 59.4 to 53.8 cents per gallon, a drop of 5.6 cents. Compared with the same period last year, the residential price increased by 31.0 cents from 88.9 cents per gallon, while the wholesale price rose 25.2 cents over last year's price of 28.6 cents per gallon.

## Propane Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I, II, and III (Thousand Barrels)

Districts	February	March	Week Ending					
	1999	1999	03/03/00	03/10/00	03/17/00	03/24/00	03/26/99	
East Coast (PADD I)	3,075	1,875	<sup>E</sup> 1,871	E2,523	E2,468	E2,409	2,024	
Midwest (PADD II)	16,318	14,038	<sup>E</sup> 6,185	<sup>E</sup> 6,671	<sup>E</sup> 6,814	<sup>E</sup> 7,314	13,309	
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	22,239	18,763	E12,327	E11,629	E11,402	E10,356	18,269	
Total (PADD I-III)	41,632	34,676	E20,383	E20,823	E20,684	E20,079	33,602	
U.S. Total	43,331	35,859	<sup>E</sup> 21,137	<sup>E</sup> 21,593	<sup>E</sup> 21,449	<sup>E</sup> 20,821	34,846	

E=Estimated data.

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA), Monthly Petroleum Supply Reporting System and Form EIA-807, "Propane Telephone Survey."

## Propane Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I and II (Cents per Gallon)

	Wholesale					Residential				
District	02/28/00	03/06/00	03/13/00	03/20/00	03/15/99	02/28/00	03/06/00	03/13/00	03/20/00	03/15/99
East Coast (PADD I)	72.9	66.7	65.1	58.3	32.0	143.5	141.2	140.9	139.2	107.5
New England (PADD IX)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	145.7	145.3	144.8	143.2	111.9
Central Atlantic (PADD IY)	75.8	67.8	66.4	60.2	33.3	145.7	142.4	142.7	141.2	109.1
Lower Atlantic (PADD IZ)	69.3	65.4	63.5	55.9	30.3	136.1	134.6	132.9	130.6	99.4
Midwest (PADD II)	59.9	59.9	57.4	52.3	27.6	107.1	106.6	106.7	105.4	74.9
Average	63.3	61.7	59.4	53.8	28.6	122.7	121.4	121.4	119.9	88.9

NA=Not Available.

R=Revised.

Source: Wholesale propane prices are based on Oil Price Information Service. Residential propane prices are available from data supplied by 23 State Energy Offices from October through March on a semi-monthly basis.

For information about propane stocks, please contact the National Energy Information Center: (202) 586-8800. E-mail: infoctr@eia.doe.gov. For information about propane prices, please contact Alice Lippert: (202) 586-9600. E-mail: alippert@eia.doe.gov.